

Sunday November 22, 2009



Things sure are big in Texas but these boots are NOT made for walking!

Here is a picture of what many of the park models and trailers here are housed under.



It was our last day at the Lake Whitney RV park, so we decided to take a drive



around the Lake.

We discovered that most of the area is rather depressed. It was probably quite nice back in the sixties but nothing seems to have changed much since then. The roads in the park and the golf course are in very bad shape. Without some badly needed upkeep it will be difficult for this park to survive.

At night we discovered that our trailer battery was almost dead. Mike was able to revive it enough to get the jacks to work but obviously we need to get it serviced on Monday.

Monday November 23, 2009



The morning was quite foggy, so we had to put off leaving until it cleared up. We pulled out at 9:15 am under partly cloudy skies and headed south on the I-35 towards San

Antonio. We saw lots of large ranches with longhorn cattle. This one had a very fancy gate.

In Valley Mills there were some pretty murals on the business walls.



We stopped into an HEB store. They said that business is slow and they are missing Pat and Pete
☐ LOL.



We arrived at the Travellers World RV Resort in San Antonio at 3 PM. This is a very well maintained park with wide roads and nice landscaping.



On the way in we saw this interesting camper.

After a call to the insurance company and then to the Stage Coach RV service company, arrangements were made for someone to come the next day to look at the battery problem.

Tuesday November 24, 2009

In the morning a technician from Stage Coach came and replaced the converter, so our battery problem was fixed. That left the rest of the day for sightseeing.

The main attractions in San Antonio are the Alamo and the River Walk. Last year we saw the movie shoot version of the Alamo, so we were keen to see the real one.

In the Alamo courtyard there were amazing large trees.





Preservation of the Alamos is dedicated to the memory of the men who died trying to defend the fort.

Picture taking was not allowed inside the museum or the church.

Here Mike is entering the church.

In the plaza there is a huge tree decorated with school items.

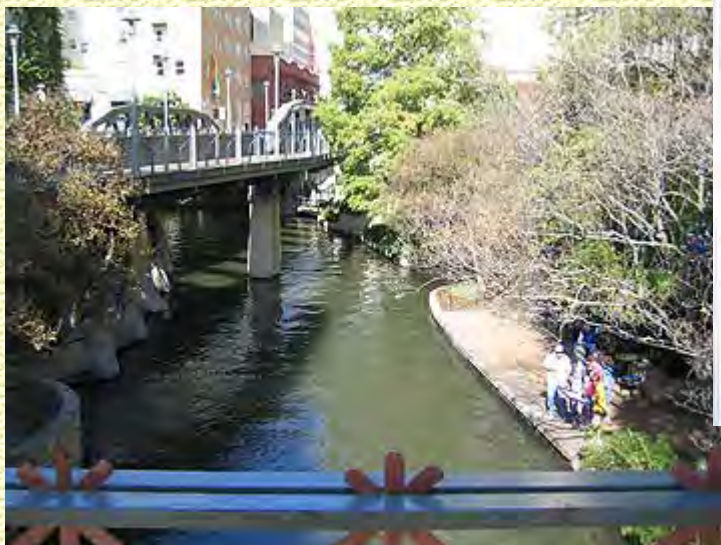




On the way to the River Walk we stopped to admire a mural made of tiny tiles

This glass sculpture was in the window of a glass store.

The River Walk has been recently expanded.



It includes an outdoor theatre.

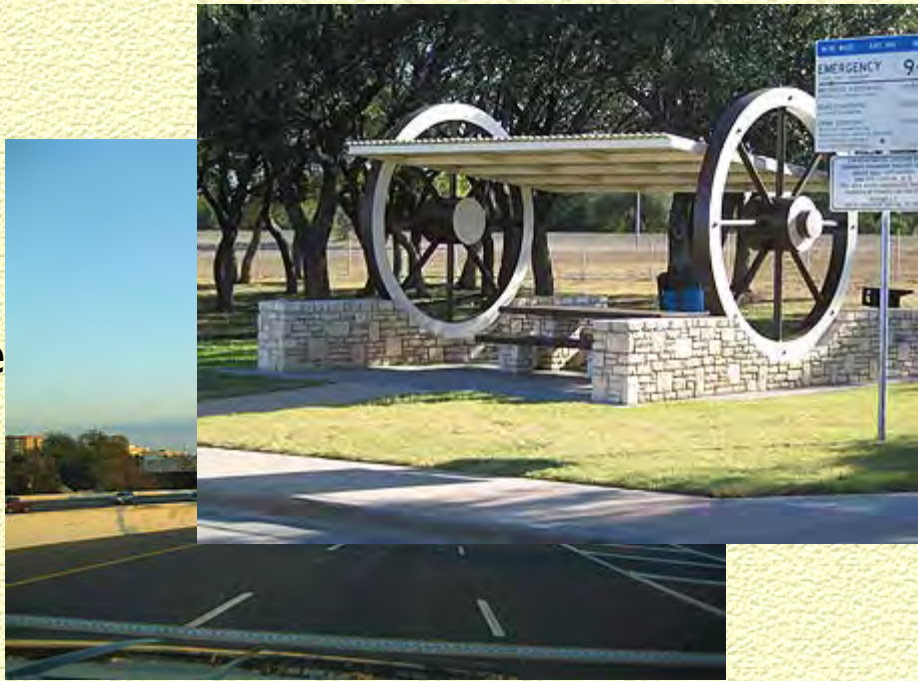
We had lunch at the Casa Rio. We sat at a table right on the edge of the river where we enjoyed some great Tex-Mex food.



On the way back to the truck we enjoyed the contrast of this old bridge and the modern orange sculpture.

Back at street level there are lots of orange trolleys.

The skyline on the way back to the park.



Wednesday November 25, 2009

Left San Antonio under sunny skies and stopped in Kerrville to see PID Mike Butler, but unfortunately we could not locate him.

The country side was hilly with lots of rocks and trees.



This road stop had interesting picnic shelters.

The hills are getting higher.



Many windmills - but most were not turning.

Thursday November 26, 2009

Happy



Thanksgiving!

This is our campsite





Maureen drove into Fort Stockton to pick up a few groceries.



On the way home Pecos Pete ☐ the nine foot high Roadrunner was spotted in his holiday outfit.

The park provided a free Turkey dinner to all the campers. We sauntered down to the Roadrunner Café and were treated to a full course dinner including devilled egg appetisers and some amazing biscuits. All we had to pay for was the wine! On our way to dinner we met our newest neighbours in a shiny new fifth wheel and discovered it was their inaugural voyage in the rig. After dinner they gave us a tour of their beautiful new □home away from home□.

Friday November 27, 2009

We left Fort Stockton at 9:30 under partly cloudy skies and travelled west through New Mexico, on Highway 10.

The terrain became more mountainous and some of the overpasses were nicely decorated with murals.



The tire pressure sensor kept beeping because one of the tires on the truck was reading low.



Mike had trouble finding an air pump that would work and finally ended up getting out our own air compressor to do the job.



After 450 km we finally arrived at the Sunland Park Casino.

They had level pull through sites with electricity and water for only \$10 per night so we decided to stay for two nights.

Maureen won \$135 playing the slots on the first night but lost \$22 the second day. Easy come easy go!

We tried out the Friday seafood buffet (really delicious) and did a bit of Christmas shopping. Overall we came out about even, so it was all good.



The Casino is beside a large horse track. In the morning the horses were out exercising much to Percy's delight.



Sunday November 29, 2009

We were up at the crack of dawn and headed out again at 7:10 am.

At 9:30 we crossed the continental Divide at 4524 feet.

We stopped at a Rest area that had Teepees covering the picnic tables.





There are many old ghost towns in this area.



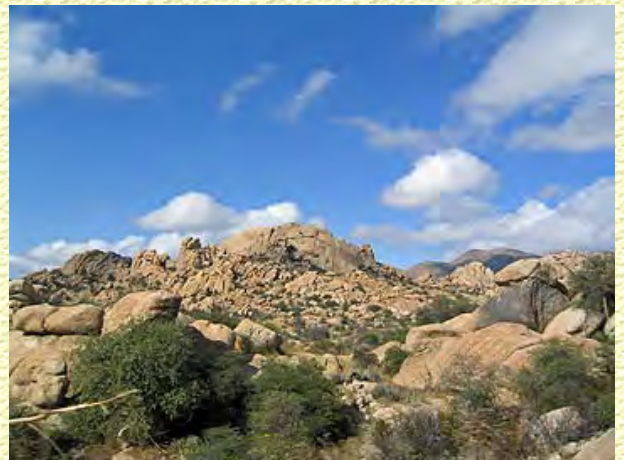
It had rained the night before and continued to rain off and on throughout the drive. A few times the sun came out and we saw rainbows.



Once we got into Arizona we were greeted with sunny skies and fluffy white clouds.



Some of these boulders looked like they were about to fall on the highway.





After travelling 5600 kilometres since we left St. Mary's Ontario, the rig was looking pretty dirty, so we stopped at Gas City to use a do it yourself RV wash. It took 40 minutes and \$23 to do the whole thing. It looks much better now!

Then it was off to our campsite at Colchise Terrace Resort in Benson Arizona. We were assigned a fabulous site with a view of the distant mountains.



The garden near our rig had many different types of cacti and had nameplates for most of them.







We noticed that the campsites were quite nicely manicured. They have an ingenious contraption called a "Gang Rake" that they use to rake the gravel.



After the early start and long ride in the truck Percy was happy to rest that evening.

Monday November 30, 2009

For the final leg of our journey for 2009, we left Benson at 10 am. It had rained again overnight, but fortunately the rain had stopped, so we did not get the shiny clean rig dirty again.

Heading through Tucson Arizona we saw coal generated electricity plants.



The walls along the highway were decorated with flowers and wildlife.



Shortly after noon we entered Casa Grande.



Palm Creek RV and Golf Resort will be our home for the next two months. It has over 1800 sites

At the gate the Canadian flag waved in the sunshine and greeters came out to welcome us.



We were amazed at how green the grounds and golf course are.



The ranger took us to our site and Mike really impressed the next door neighbour on his backing up ability.

